Application No.: 08/765,695 Docket No.: HO-P01525US0

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-35 (Canceled)

36. (Currently amended) A method for the treatment of a disease condition in a mammal, which condition means the presence of specific cells that are associated with the condition by the expression of a disease specific cell surface structure, wherein one administers to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of covalent conjugate that is able to activate T lymphocytes to lyse cells that carry the disease specific cell surface structure and comprises:

a. a biospecific affinity counterpart that is capable of binding to said surface structure, and

b. a peptide that

i. contains an amino acid sequence that is derived from ~~a superantigen selected from the group consisting of~~ staphylococcal enterotoxin ~~A, B, C1, C2, D and E,~~ wherein said peptide, ~~ii.~~ has the ability to bind to a Vβ of a T cell receptor, and

iii. has been mutated in that ~~at least one~~one or more of the following amino acid residue substitutions have been made: F47A, N128A, H187A, H225A or D227A in staphylococcal enterotoxin A ~~or corresponding residues in the other superantigens~~ to show a modified ability to bind to MHC class II antigens. ~~compared to the superantigens from which the peptide is derived~~.

Claims 37-57 (Canceled)

58. (Currently amended) The method of claim 36, wherein the disease is selected from the group consisting of cancer, and viral infection, ~~autoimmune disease and parasitic infestation~~.

59. (Previously presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the disease is cancer.

60. (Previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the biospecific affinity counterpart comprises polypeptide structure.

61. (Previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the biospecific affinity counterpart is selected from the group consisting of an antibody or an antigen-binding fragment thereof.

62. (Previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the biospecific counterpart and the peptide are fused together.

63. (Previously presented) The method of claim 61, wherein the biospecific counterpart and the peptide are fused together.

64. (Canceled)

65. (Previously presented and not entered) The method of claim 36, wherein the amino acid residue substitution is F47A.

66. (Previously presented and not entered) The method of claim 36, wherein the amino acid residue substitution is N128A.

67. (Previously presented and not entered) The method of claim 36, wherein the amino acid residue substitution is H187A.

68. (Previously presented and not entered) The method of claim 36, wherein the amino acid residue substitution is H225A.

69. (Previously presented and not entered) The method of claim 36, wherein the amino acid residue substitution is D227A.

70. (Previously presented and not entered; and Currently amended) A method for the treatment of a disease condition in a mammal, which condition is associated with cells having a disease specific cell surface structure comprising the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of a covalent conjugate~~an agent~~ comprising:

a. a biospecific affinity counterpart that is capable of binding to said surface structure, and

b. a peptide that

i. contains an amino acid sequence that is derived from staphylococcal enterotoxin A, wherein said peptide ~~ii.~~ has the ability to bind to a Vβ of a T cell receptor, and

iii. has been mutated in that the following amino acid residue has been substituted D227A in staphylococcal enterotoxin A to show a modified ability to bind to MHC class II antigens.